

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled)

24. ¹ (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing the survival of dopaminergic neurons ~~for providing trophic support for cells in a patient in need thereof~~, the method comprising administering to the patient a composition comprising a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

25. ² (Original) The method of claim ~~24~~¹ wherein the patient suffers from Parkinson's disease.

26. ³ (Original) The method of claim ~~25~~² wherein the patient suffers from a condition affecting the substantia nigra.

27. ⁴ (Currently Amended) A method of alleviating a disease condition in the brain of a human patient wherein said disease condition is alleviated by enhancing the survival of ~~at least one method selected from the group consisting of slowing degeneration of, restoring function of, and increasing the number of,~~ dopaminergic neurons in said human patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a pharmaceutically effective composition comprising a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claims 28-52 (Cancelled)